

reaffirm their commitment to a rich and dynamic Baltic-American partnership for the 21st century.

The Partners view their partnership in the areas of political, economic, security, defense, cultural, and environmental affairs as contributing to closer ties between their people and facilitating the full integration of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into European and transatlantic structures.

In order to further strengthen these ties, the Partners will establish a Partnership Commission chaired at the appropriately high level to evaluate common efforts. This Commission will meet once a year or as needed to take stock of the Partnership, assess results of bilateral consultations on economic, military and other areas, and review progress achieved towards meeting the goals of this Charter.

In order to better reflect changes in the European and transatlantic political and security environment, signing Partners are committed regularly at the highest level to review this agreement.

William J. Clinton
President
United States of America

Lennart Meri
President
Republic of Estonia

Guntis Ulmanis
President
Republic of Latvia

Algirdas Brazauskas
President
Republic of Lithuania

Washington D.C.,
January 16, 1998

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this agreement. This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

**Statement on the Appointment of
Senator John Breaux as Chairman of
the National Bipartisan Commission
on the Future of Medicare**
January 16, 1998

I am pleased to join with Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and House Speaker Newt Gingrich in announcing the appointment of

Senator John Breaux (D-LA) as Chairman of the National Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare.

In addition, I am grateful that Representative Bill Thomas (R-CA) has agreed to become Administrative Chair, working with the Chairman on this important Commission.

Over the past 5 years, we have strengthened and modernized the Medicare system by providing Americans with more choice and preventative care, reducing fraud and waste within the system, and extending the life of the Trust Fund for more than a decade.

Despite these advances, there is more work to do to ensure that Medicare stays strong and solvent for the generations to come.

I look forward to working with the Commission and to receiving their analysis of and recommendations for the future challenges facing the Medicare program.

NOTE: This item was not received in time for publication in the appropriate issue.

The President's Radio Address
January 17, 1998

Good morning. Today I want to talk about the steps we must take to protect our children and the public health from one of the greatest threats they face—tobacco. For years, tobacco companies have sworn they do not market their deadly products to children, but this week disturbing documents came to light that confirm our worst suspicions.

For years one of our Nation's biggest tobacco companies appears to have singled out our children, carefully studying their habits and pursuing a marketing strategy designed to prey on their insecurities in order to get them to smoke.

Let me read you two of the most startling lines from an internal tobacco company presentation proposing a marketing campaign targeted at children as young as 14. Quote, "Our strategy becomes clear: direct advertising appeal to younger smokers." Younger smokers, this document says also, and I quote, "represent tomorrow's cigarette business." The message of these documents is all too clear: Marketing to children sells cigarettes.